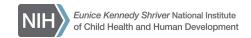
Infertility: An Increasing Problem Prompting Remarkable Advances

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Division of Intramural Population Health Research, NICHD



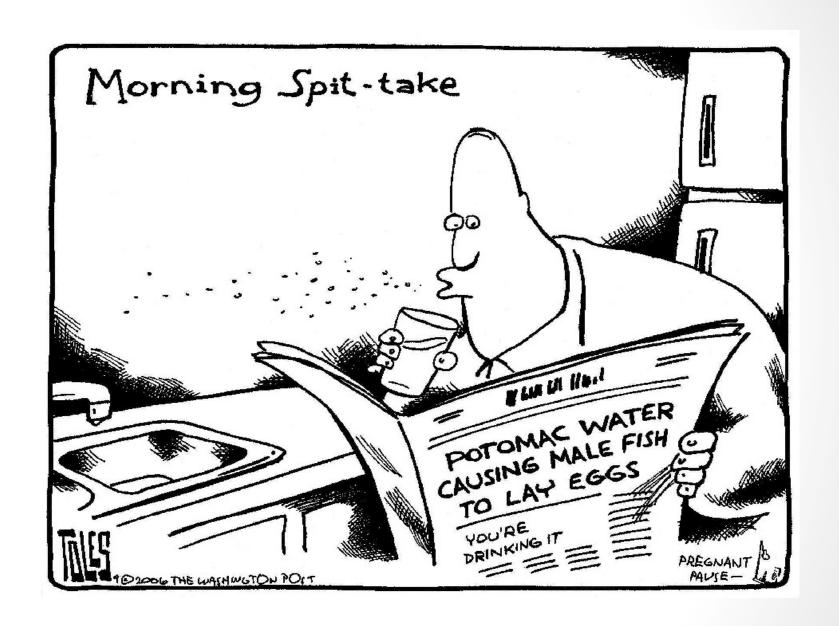


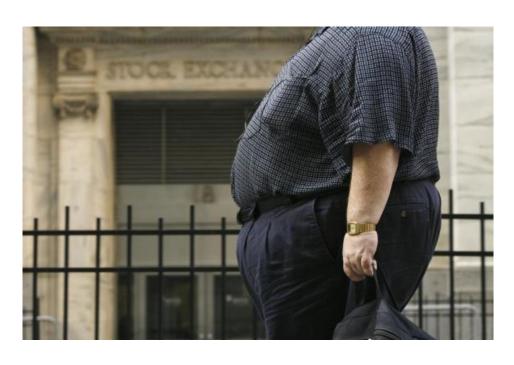
Today's Talk

- Infertility population perspective
 - Incidence & prevalence
 - Terminology & risk factors
 - Relevancy for health & disease across the lifespan
- Infertility clinical perspective
 - Clinical evaluation & diagnosis
 - Medical advances in treatment

Changing Fecundity Landscape

- Earlier pubertal onset & progression (Buck Louis et al. 2008)
- Global declines in semen quality (Carlsen et al. 2004; Swan et al. 2003)
- Increasing interval for female reproductive age
 - 36.1 years for women born 1915-1919 versus 37.7 years for women born 1935-1939 (Nichols et al. 2006)
 - o Earlier age at menarche (Herman-Giddens et al. 1997, 2001)
 - Slightly increasing age at menopause 51.4 years (Menopause Society, 2002)





Being overweight may affect men's semen quality
BY KATHRYN DOYLE

NEW YORK TIMES Dec 19, 2013





Who will have male factor infertility?



Who will have female factor infertility?

What are their chances of conceiving in the 1st month of trying? By 6 or 12 months?

- 100%
- 80%
- 60%
- 40%
- 20%
- 0%





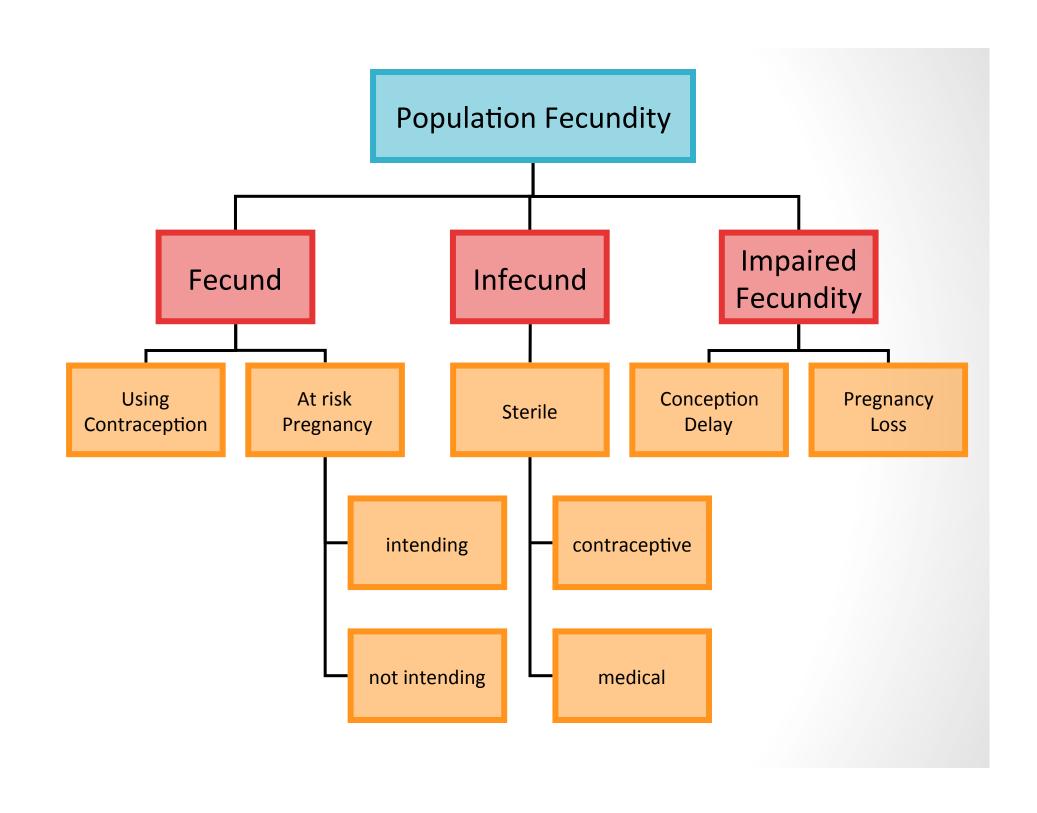
Terminology & Definitions

Fecundity

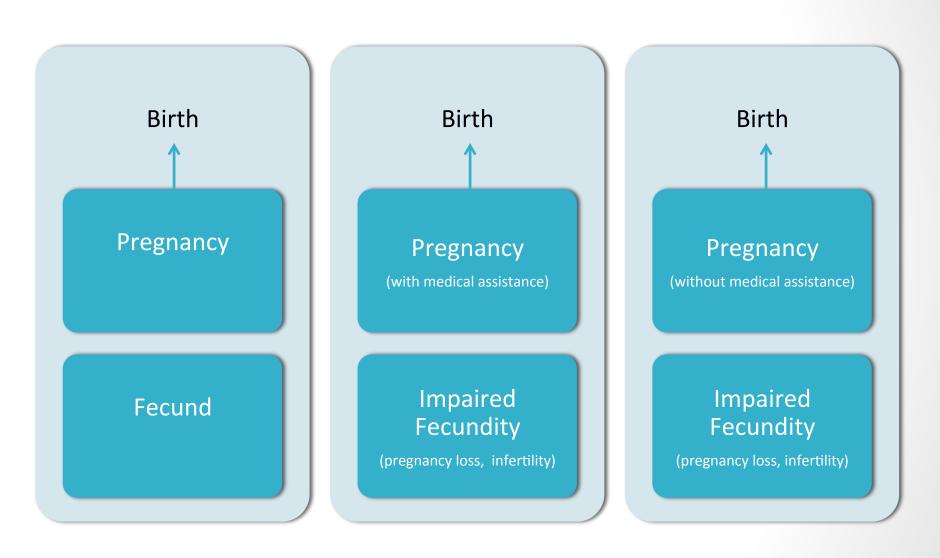
 Biologic capacity for human reproduction irrespective of pregnancy intentions

Fertility

Demonstrated fecundity as measured by live (still) births



Dynamic Nature of Fecundity and Fertility



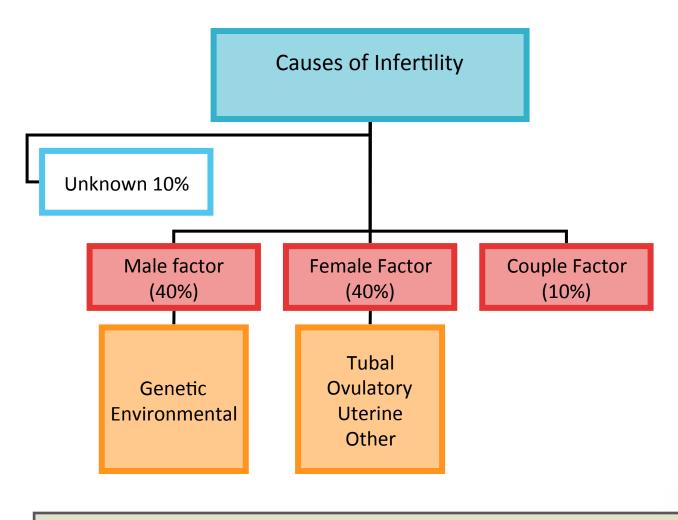
Infertility



Inability to conceive among couples who have never been pregnant.

Inability to conceive or carry a pregnancy to term among couples with a previous pregnancy regardless of outcome.

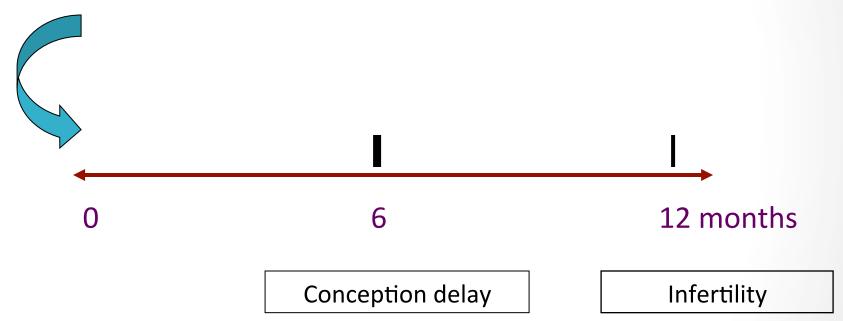
Diagnostic Subtypes of Infertility



Prior to 1950s, infertility viewed as a "female" problem.

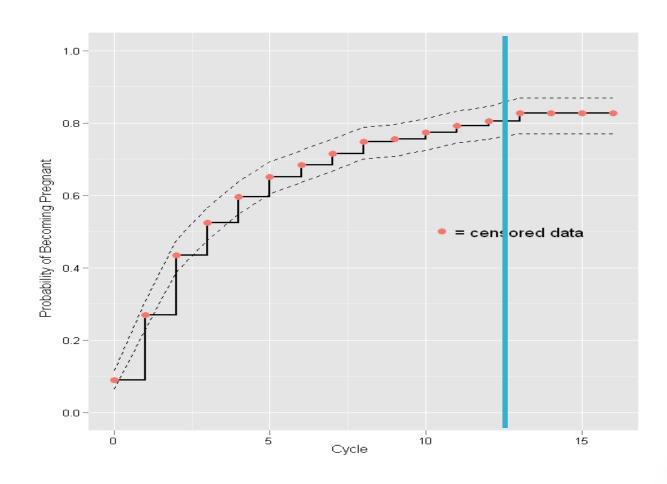
Time-to-Pregnancy

Couples trying (or at risk) for pregnancy





Cumulative Probability of Pregnancy



TTP Determinants*

Females

- Smoking
- Alcohol
- Caffeine
- BMI (lean & obese)
- Chemicals
- Stress

Males

- Smoking
- Alcohol
- Caffeine
- BMI (lean & obese)
- Chemicals

Swedish women born 1960 or later, 14% TTP explained by OC use prior to attempting, menstrual cycle length, age, & parity (Axmom et al. 2006)

^{*}Augood et al. 1998; Baird & Strassman 2000; Sharpe & Franks 2002; Hassan & Killick 2004

Validity of TTP (in months)*

Exact Agreement	17%
±1 months	41%
<u>+</u> 2 months	65%
±3 months	72%

^{*33%} of women could not remember

Infertility Incidence & Prevalence

Infertility - Globally

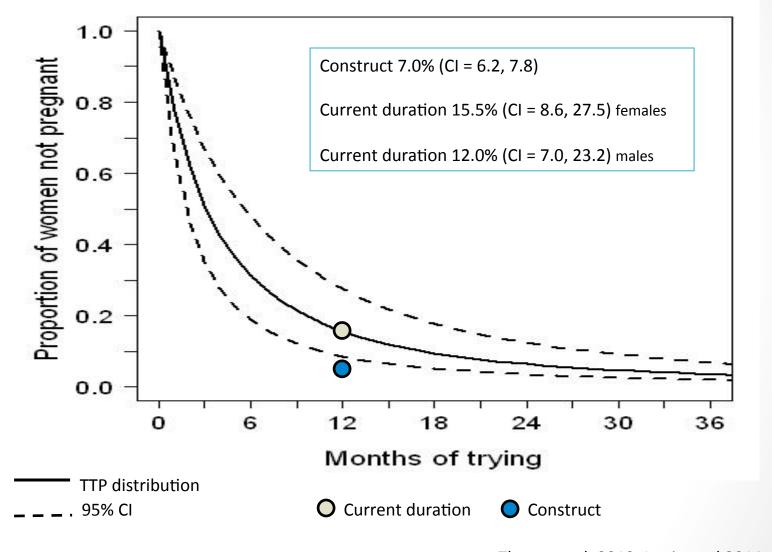
Incidence uncertain

12% - 18% prospective cohorts (preconception enrollment)

Global Prevalence ≈15%

- 4 14% Germany (Schmidt et al. 1995)
- 6% 20% European populations (Karamus et al. 1999)
- o 6% 12% Tanzania (Larsen 2005)
- 7% 9% developing countries (Boivin et al. 2007)
- 8% 12% Asia & Latin America (wно 1991)
- o 9% 30% Sub-Saharan Africa (Sundby et al. 1998; Geelhoed et al. 2002; Okonofua 1996)

Estimated U.S. Infertility Prevalence by Method



Thoma et al. 2013; Louis et al 2014

% Women Failing to Conceive by Male's Age*

Male Age (in years)	% Women aged 35 yrs. Without Conception
<35	
35	18
40	28

^{*}Within 12 cycles. European Fecundability Study (Colombo & Masarotto 2000; Dunson et al. 2004)

% Women Failing to Conceive Within 12 Cycles

Female Age (in years)	%
Intercourse - twice weekly	
19-26	8
27-34	13-14
35-39	18
Intercourse – once weekly	
19-26	15
27-34	22-24
35-39	29

Analytic Epidemiology

- Female Infertility
 - Age
 - Medical history
 - Environment
 - Lifestyle
 - Diet
 - Occupation & hobbies
 - BMI
 - Stress

- Male Infertility
 - Age
 - Medical history
 - Environment
 - Lifestyle
 - Diet
 - Occupation & hobbies
 - BMI



Male Biological Clock

- Androgen production & spermatogenesis continues over lifespan, though not at same capacity
 - Aging of testes, accessory glands, epididymis
 - ↓ spermatogenesis & Leydig cell function
 - ↓ blood testosterone ≈ 1% per year at 30 years (Pasqualotto et al. 2004; Feldman et al. 1994)
- Advancing paternal age associated
 - Miscarriage (Dunson et al. 2002)
 - Autism spectrum disorder (Reichenberg et al. 2006
 - Schizophrenia (Malaspina et al. 2001)
 - Down Syndrome (Fisch et al. 2003)

... fecundity impairments & health

Male Fecundity & Later Onset Adult Disease*

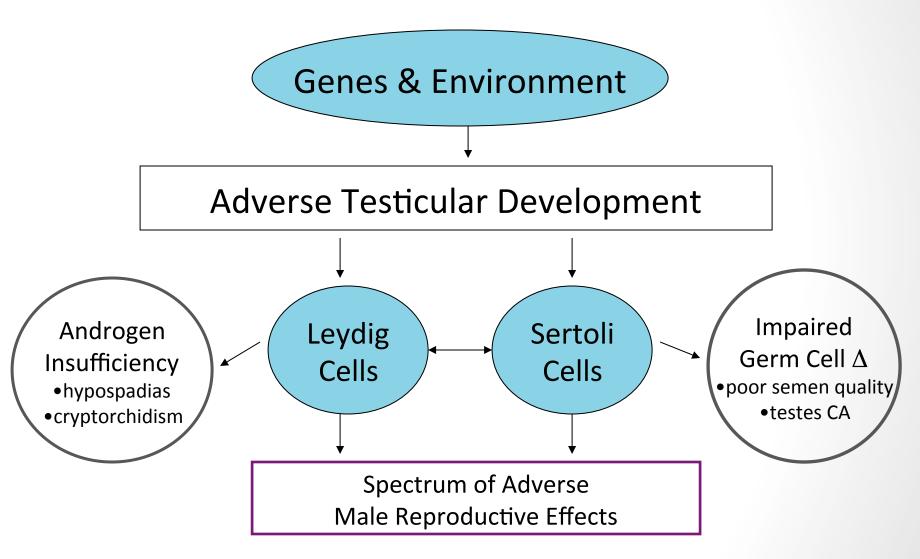
Fecundity Marker	Adult Disease
GU malformations	Poorer semen quality
GU malformations	> Risk testes cancer
Semen quality	Earlier mortality Offspring at > risk GU malformations

*Observational studies

Female Fecundity & Later Onset Adult Disease*

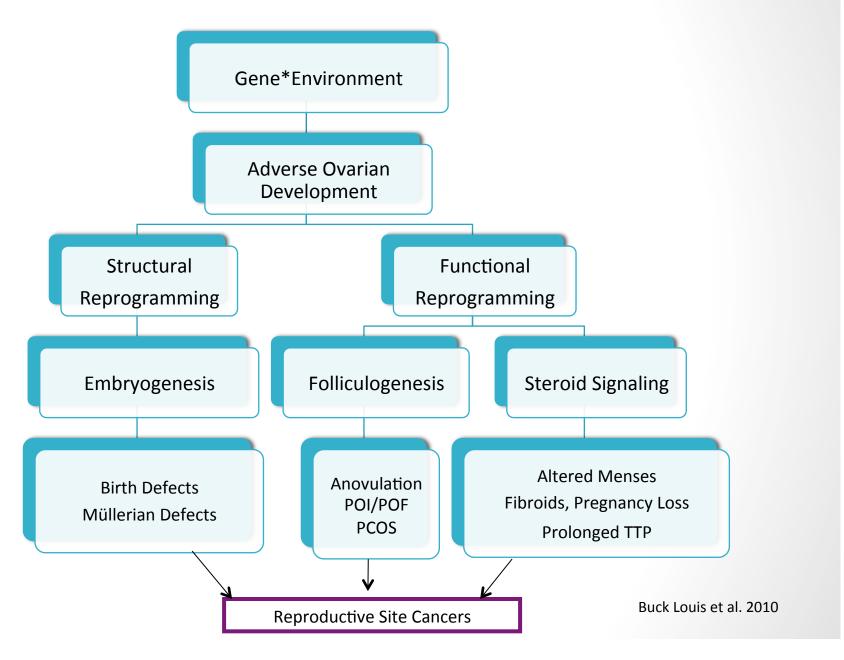
Fecundity Marker	Adult Disease
In utero growth restriction	Earlier puberty, higher risk GDM, earlier menopause
Earlier menarche, later menopause, nulliparity, PCOS, pre-eclampsia	> Risk cancer
GDM, PCOS	> Risk CHD, T2D, metabolic syndrome, stroke, endometrial cancer
Endometriosis	> Autoimmune disorders, cancer risk (reproductive sites)

Testicular Dysgenesis Syndrome (TDS)



*Skakkebaek et al. 2001

Ovarian Dysgenesis Syndrome (ODS)



Critical Tipping Point*

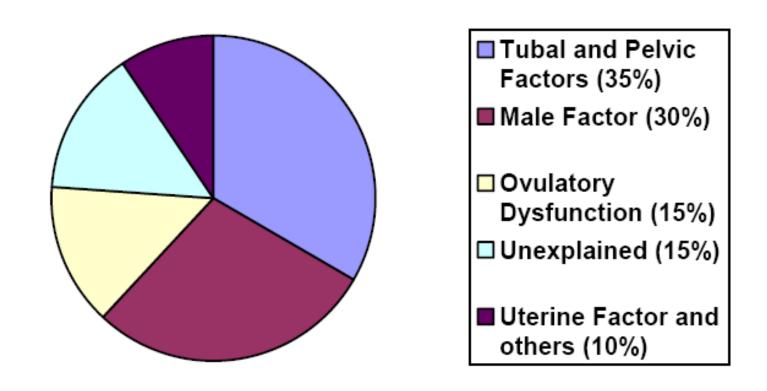
- Historically low fertility rates in many industrialized countries
 - Levels < required for sustaining populations (Lutz et al. 2003)
- Hypothesized large role for male subfertility associated with ↑ testes CA
 - 'Whistleblower' for subfertility (Skakkebaek et al. 2006, 2007)
- Rapid changes suggest environmental influences; few genetic causes (Y chromosome deletions)

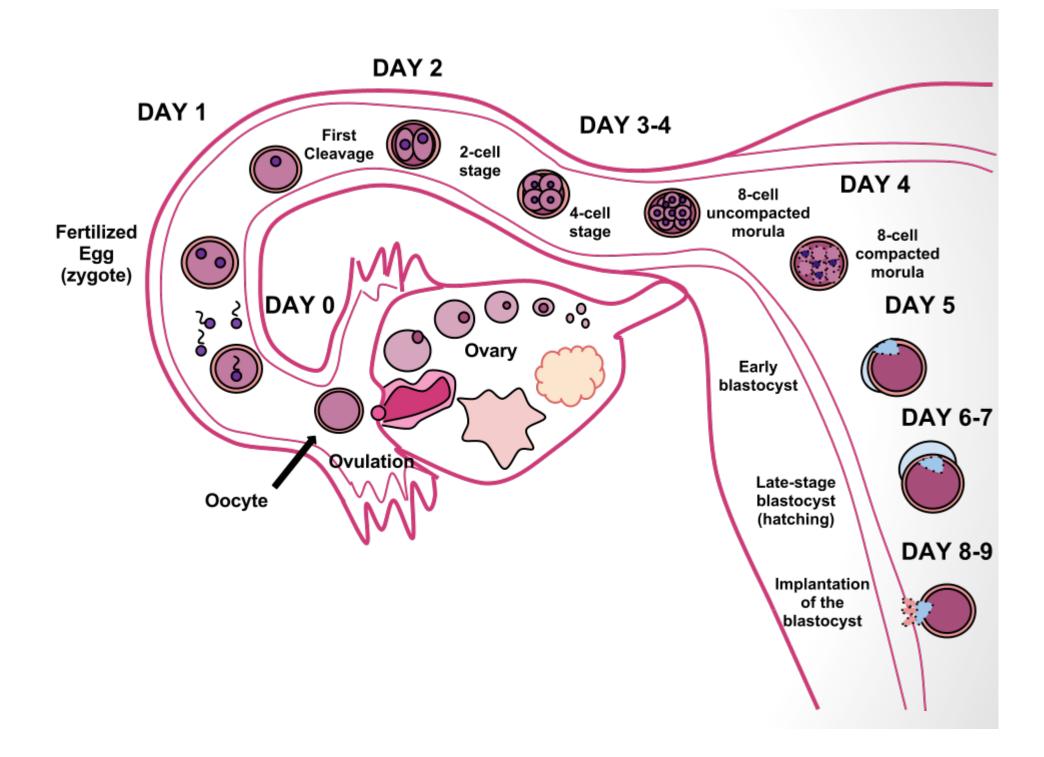
Clinical Approach to Infertility: Diagnosis & Management

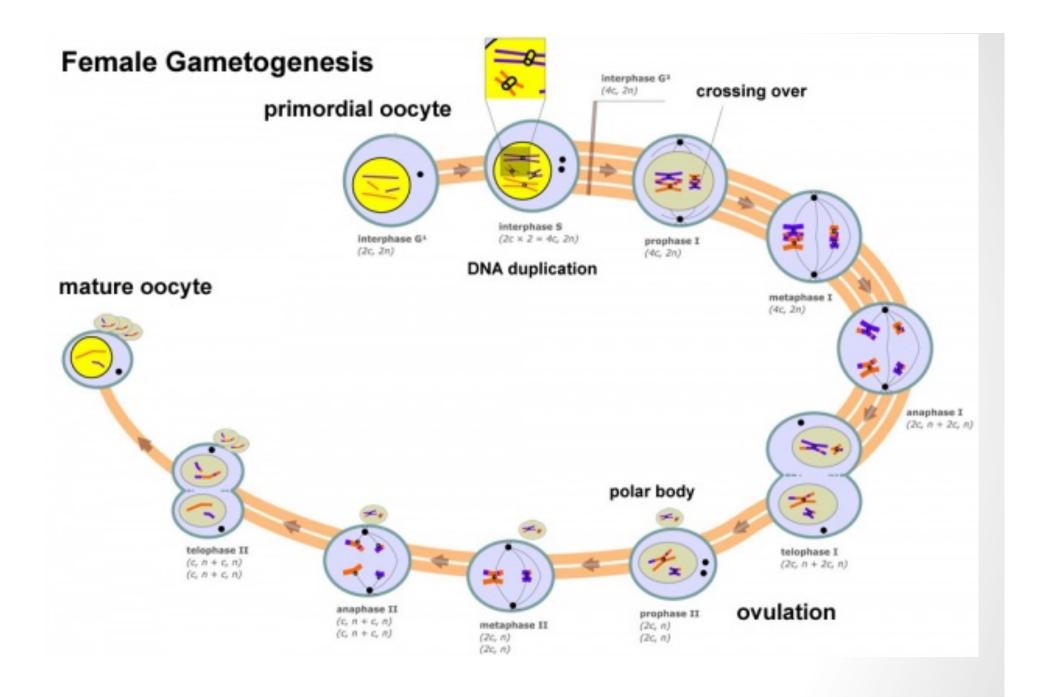
Infertility is a Disease

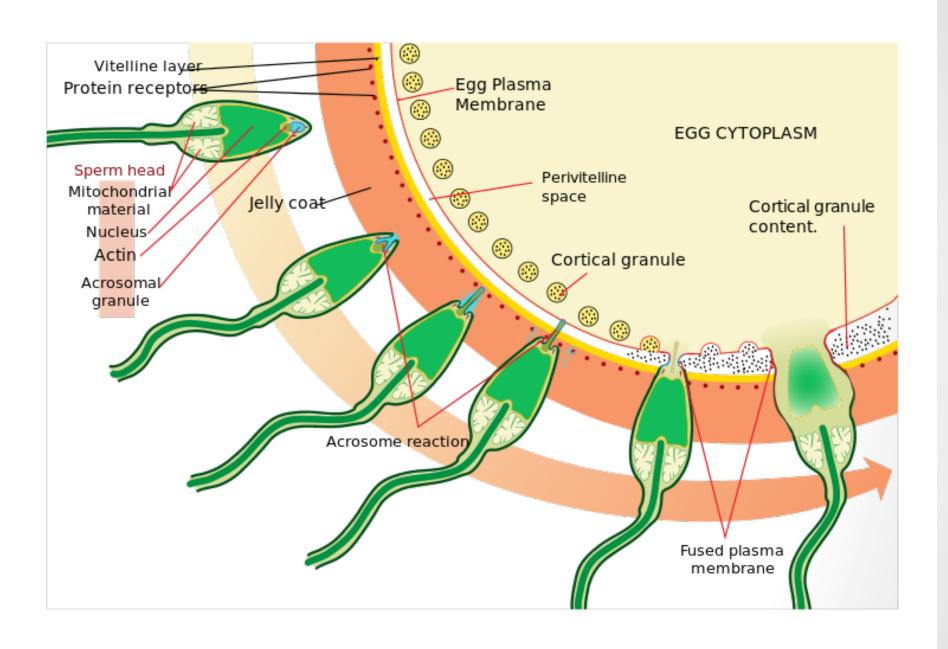
- Inability to conceive after 1 year of intercourse without conception (American Fertility Society 1991)
- A disease resulting in abnormal reproductive function (American Fertility Society 1990)

Infertility Causes in Couples

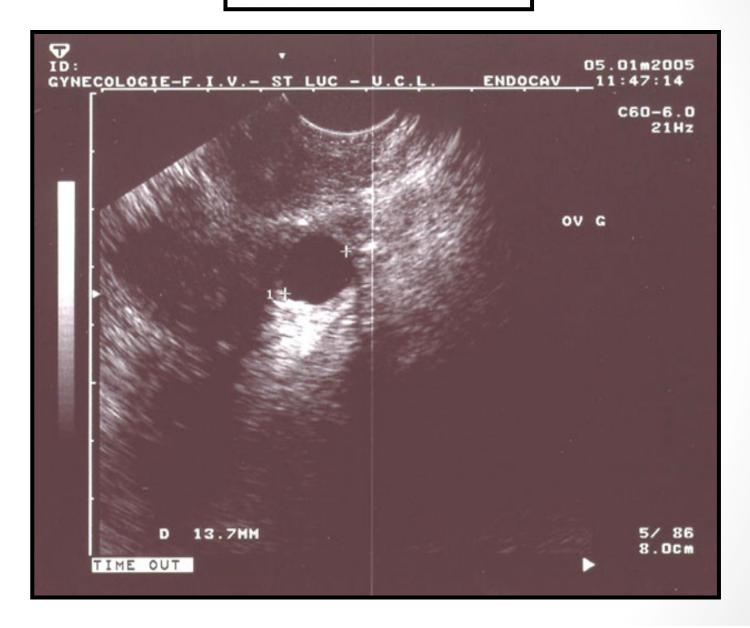




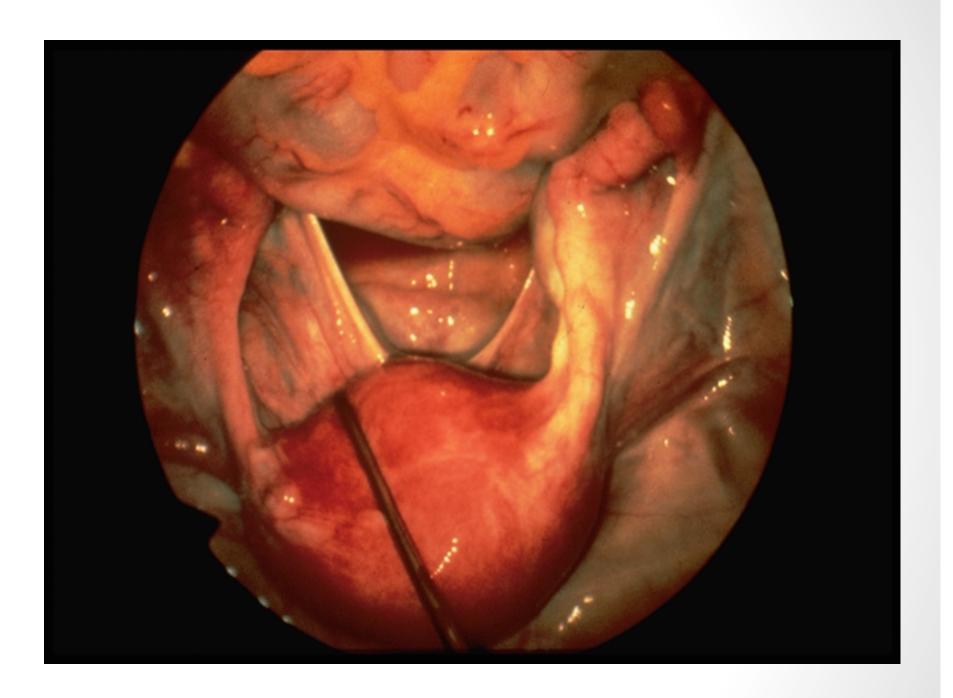




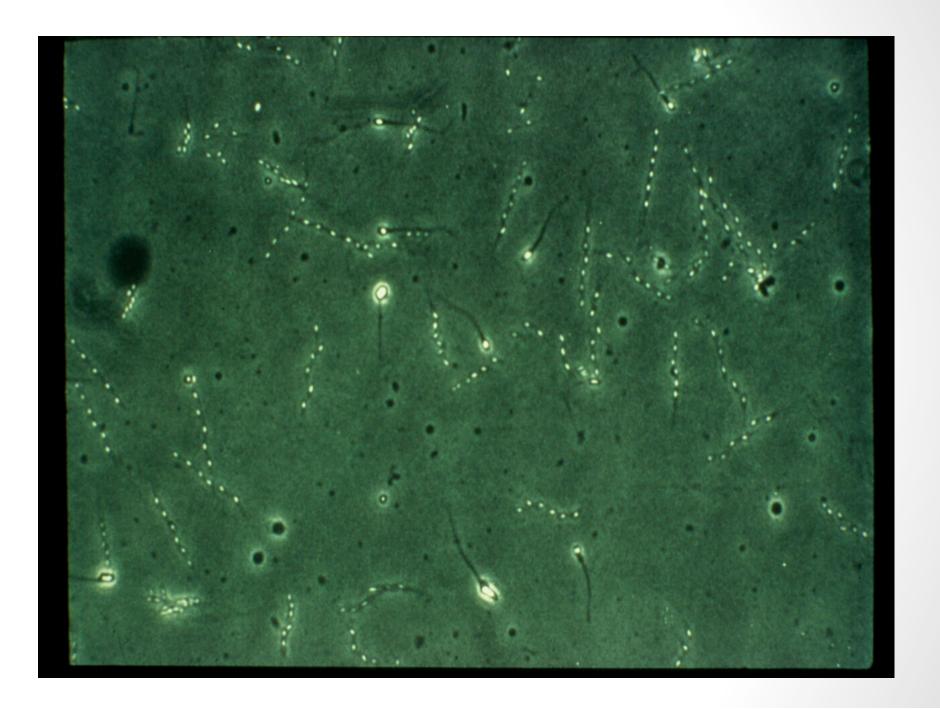
Follicle 05.01.2005 - 13.7 mm

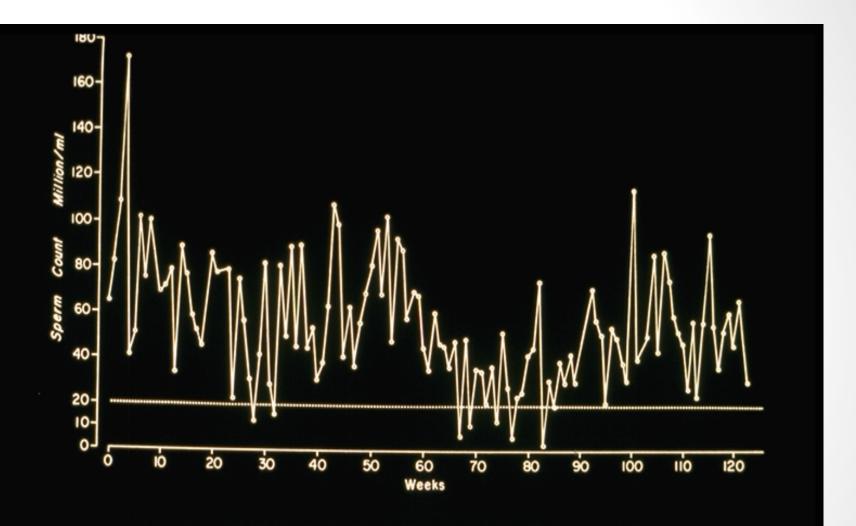


MMY



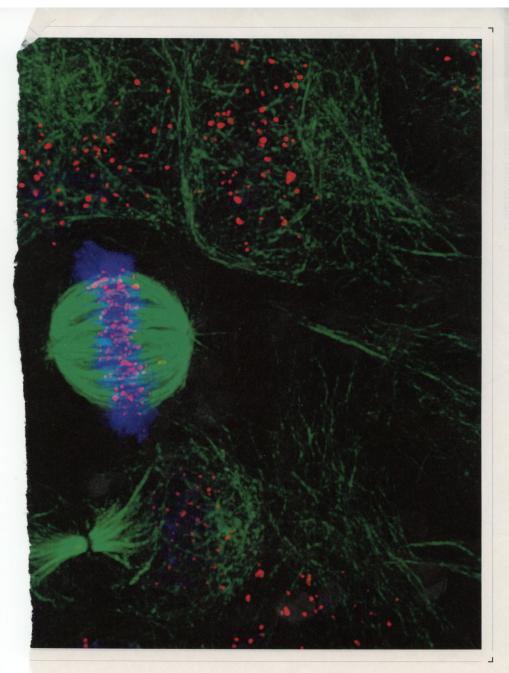






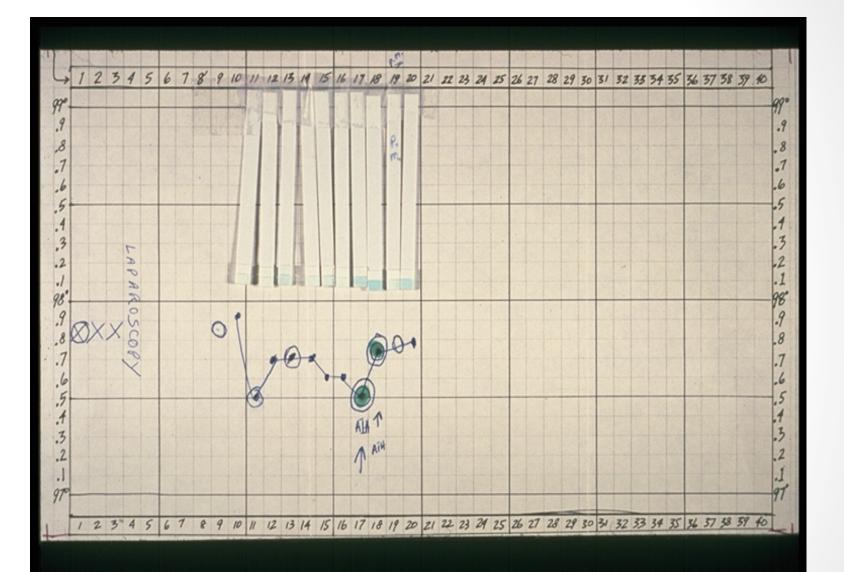
Biweekly seminal fluid sperm concentrations from one individual over a period of 120 weeks. During this period the individual received no medication and reported no periods of febrile illness. Dotted line indicates 20 million/ml which is generally considered to be the lower limit of normal range (see 2.9 paragraph 3). Unpublished data from Dr C.A. Paulsen.

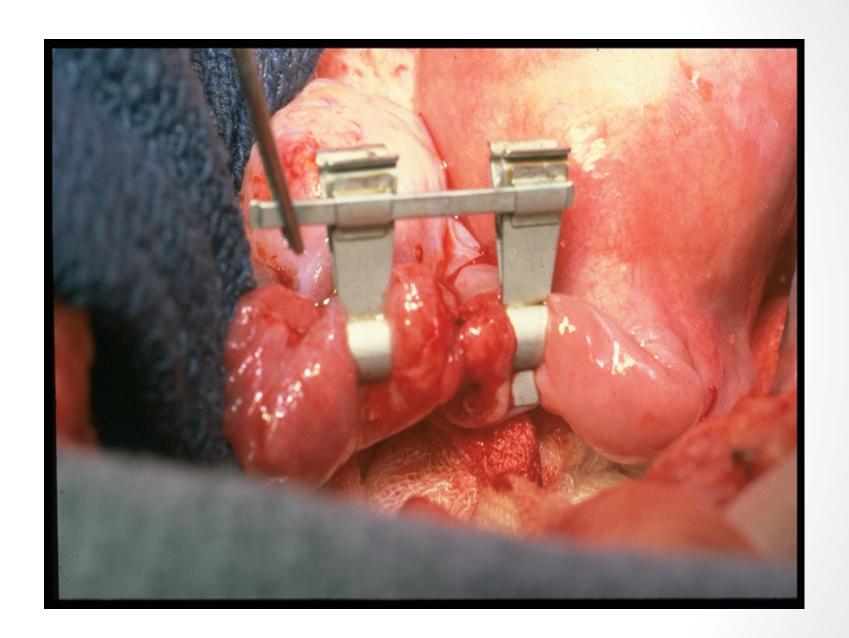




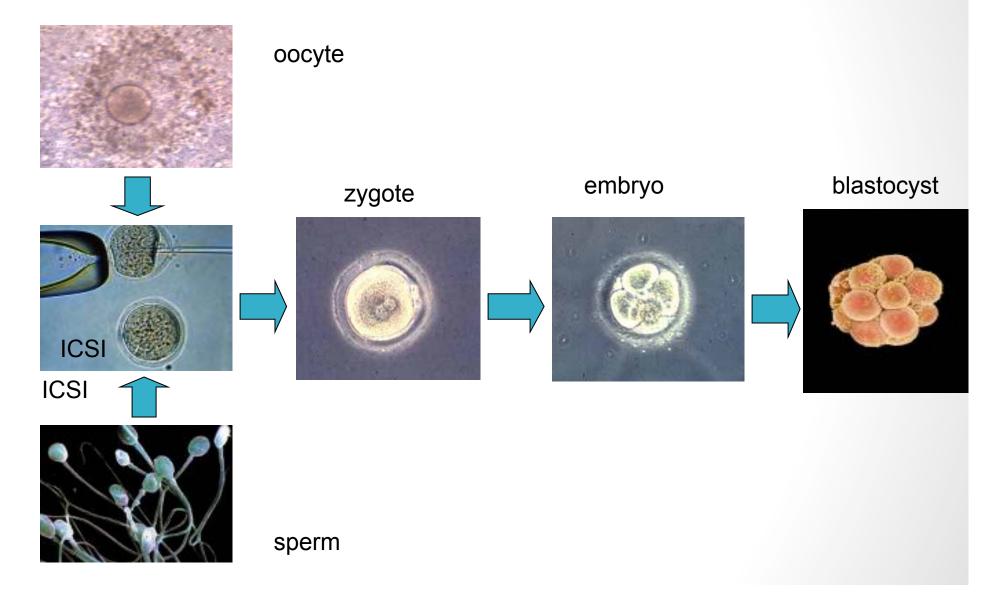
Miscarriage and Maternal Age

Age (years)	Total number of pregnancies	Miscarriage rate
20–24	350395	9%
25-29	414149	11%
30-34	23 5049	15%
35-39	93 940	25%
40-44	25132	51%
≥ 45	1865	75%

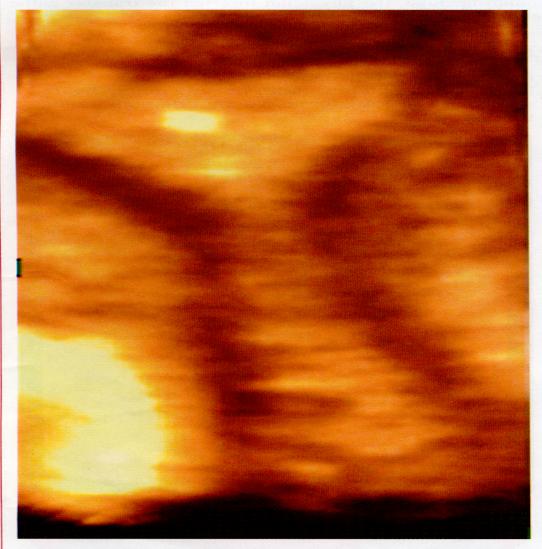




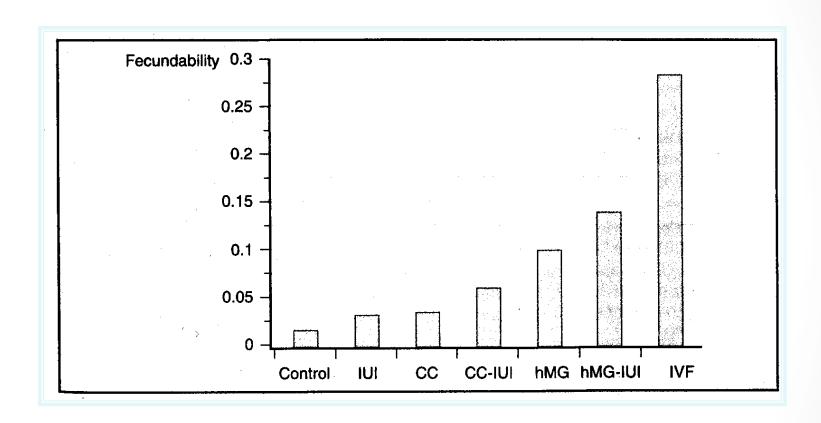
Overview of IVF Procedure: Gametes to Embryo



Embryo flash is confirmed on 3D ultrasound after transfer in area of maximal implantation potential.



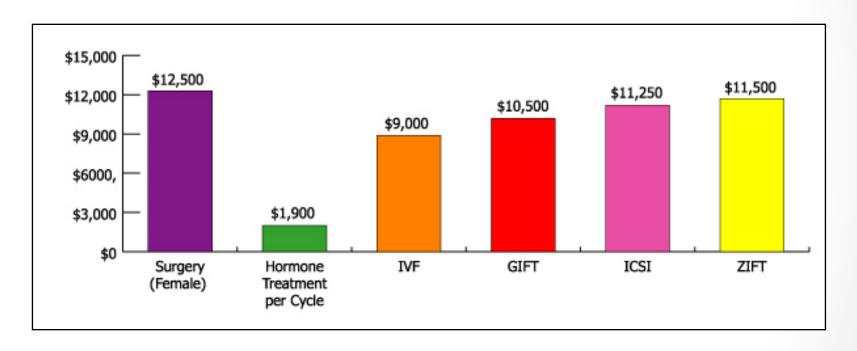
Gergely. Embryo transfer using the 3D/4D ultrasound. Fertil Steril 2005



Chap 20. Female Infertility, pg. 659.

Infertility Treatment Costs

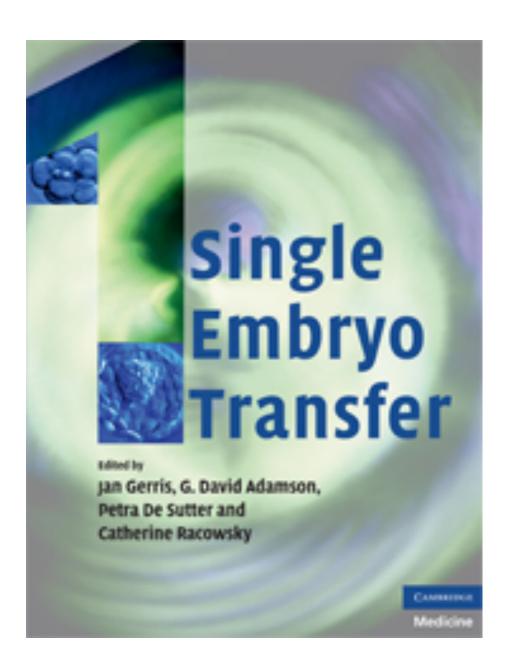
Infertility-related procedures are a more significant cost driver than pharmacotherapy (Davis 1996)



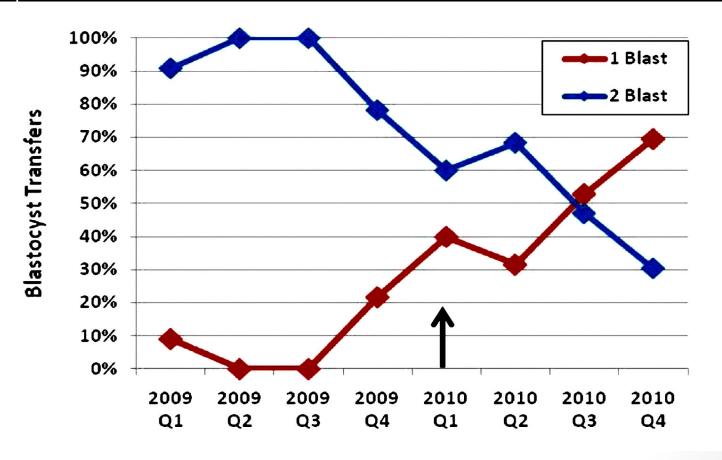
IVF = In vitro fertilization; GIFT = Gamete intrafallopian transfer ICSI = Intracytoplasmic sperm injection; ZIFT = Zygote intrafallopian transfer

Controversy: What do patients want?

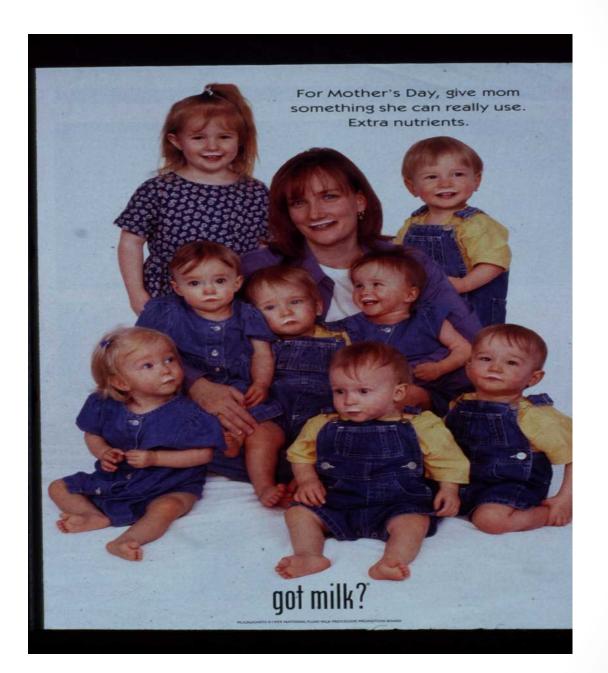
• The desire of infertile patients for multiple births (Ryan et al. Fertil Steril 2004)



Summary of the percentage of blastocysts transferred per patient (*y* axis) over time per quarter year (Q1–4) from 2009 to 2010 (*x* axis). Transfers of a single blastocyst (*red line*) increased after the institution of the mandatory single-blastocyst transfer (mSBT) policy as marked with an arrow in January 2010. Conversely, the percentage of two blastocyst transfers (*blue line*) decreased after the mSBT policy. No patient had more than two blastocysts transferred, so the total percentage of embryos transferred each quarter equals 100%.



Csokmay JM, Hill MJ, Chason RJ, Hennessy S, James AN, Cohen J, DeCherney AH, Segars JH, and Payson MD. Experience with a patient-friendly, mandatory, single-blastocyst transfer policy: the power of one. Fertility and Sterility® Vol. 96, No. 3, September 2011.

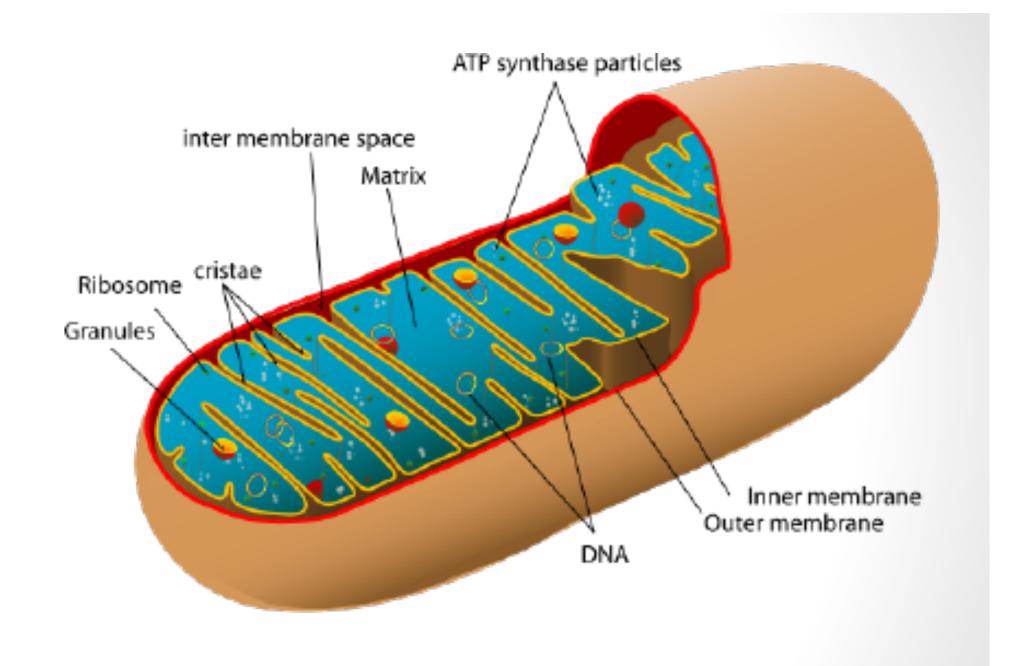


THE LAW

- Embryo ownership
- Surrogacy
- Embryo research
- Cloning
- regulation

Ethics

- Sex selection
- Post mortem reproduction
- Frozen embryo storage
- Disease perpetuation
- Single women





"For his fifth birthday, I've got tickets to 'The Lion King.' So, ideally, I'd like to conceive by the end of this month."